

Serial No. 09/594,170

IN THE ABSTRACT:

Please delete the Abstract in its entirety and substitute the new ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE enclosed herewith.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as follows:

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1. (Amended) Switch for the optical switching of a light path, particularly for switching the entering of light into a fiber-optical light guide, the switch having at least one mirror surface for reflecting the light, [for establishing the mirror surface,] a support being equipped with a reflective layer for establishing the mirror surface, [characterized in that] wherein the support is a glass body.

2. (Amended) Switch according to Claim 1,
[characterized in that] wherein the mirror element [(7)] comprising the at least one mirror surface [(7', 7'')] and the glass body is cut out of a glass plate provided with at least one reflective layer.

3. (Amended) Switch according to Claim 1 [or 2],
[characterized in that] wherein the glass body [or the glass plate] is provided on both sides with a reflective layer [(7', 7'')].

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4. (Amended) Switch according to [one of the preceding claims, characterized in that] Claim 1, wherein the glass body [or the glass plate] has a thickness of approximately 0.02 to 0.7 mm, particularly of approximately 0.1 to 0.5 mm.

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5. (Amended) Switch according to [one of the preceding claims, characterized in that] Claim 1, wherein the reflective layer [(7', 7'')] is applied to the support by means of a vacuum coating method which is known per se.

6. (Amended) Switch according to [one of the preceding claims, characterized in that] Claim 1, wherein the reflective layer [(7', 7'')] is constructed as a highly reflective layer, preferably made of Au, Ag or Al.

7. (Amended) Switch according to [one of the preceding claims, characterized in that] Claim 1, wherein the reflective layer [(7', 7'')] is protected by a protective layer.

8. (Amended) Switch according to Claim 7, [characterized in that] wherein the protective layer is essentially formed of SiO₂, SiO_x, MgF₂, ThF₄ or similar stable hard dielectric oxides, nitrides or fluorides.

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9. (Amended) Switch according to Claim 7 [or 8],
[characterized in that] wherein the protective layer can be
produced by a vacuum technique.

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10. (Amended) Switch according to [one of the preceding
claims, characterized in that] Claim 1, wherein the support
having the reflective mirror surface (7', 7'') is arranged on a
switch body (8).

11. (Amended) Switch according to Claim 10,
[characterized in that] wherein the switch body [(8)] has a shaft
or a shaft bore [(9)] for its swivellability.

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12. (Amended) Switch according to Claim 10 [or 11],
[characterized in that] wherein the switch body [(8)] is produced
from a material which can be cast or injection molded.

13. (Amended) Switch according to [one of Claims 10 to 12,
characterized in that] Claim 10, wherein the support is arranged
on [the] an essentially cuboid-shaped switch body [(8)] in a
surface-flush manner in a recess [(8b)].

14. (Amended) Switch according to [one of Claims 10 to 12,
characterized in that] Claim 10, wherein the support is inserted

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at [the] an essentially cuboid-shaped switch body [(8)] approximately at [the] a level of medium deepness, preferably in a form closure.

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15. (Amended) Switch according to [one of Claims 10 to 14, characterized in that] Claim 10, wherein the support projects from the switch body [(8)] approximately in the manner of a lug.

16. (Amended) Switch according to [one of Claims 10 to 15, characterized in that the] Claim 10, wherein ^{the} support is glued to the switch body [(8)].

Please ADD the following new claims 17-31:

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17. Switch according to Claim 2, wherein the glass body is provided on both sides with a reflective layer.

18. Switch according to Claim 2, wherein the glass body has a thickness of approximately 0.02 to 0.7 mm, particularly of approximately 0.1 to 0.5 mm.

19. Switch according to Claim 3, wherein the glass body has a thickness of approximately 0.02 to 0.7 mm, particularly of approximately 0.1 to 0.5 mm.

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20. Switch according to Claim 2, wherein the reflective layer is applied to the support by means of a vacuum coating method which is known per se.

21. Switch according to Claim 17, wherein the reflective layer is constructed as a highly reflective layer, preferably made of Au, Ag or Al.

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22. Switch according to Claim 17, wherein the reflective layer is protected by a protective layer.

23. Switch according to Claim 2, wherein the support having the reflective mirror surface is arranged on a switch body.

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24. A method of making a switch for the optical switching of a light path, particularly for switching the entering of light into a fiber-optical light guide, the switch having at least one mirror surface for reflecting the light, a support being equipped with a reflective layer for establishing the mirror surface, wherein the support is a glass body,

said method comprising forming the support by cutting a glass body out of glass plate provided with at least one reflective layer.

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25. A method of making a switch according to Claim 24, wherein the glass body is provided on both sides with a reflective layer.

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26. A method of making a switch according to Claim 24, wherein the glass body has a thickness of between .02mm and 0.7mm.

27. A method of making a switch according to Claim 26, wherein the glass body has a thickness of between 0.1mm and 0.5mm.

28. A method of making a switch according to Claim 24, wherein the reflective layer is constructed as a highly reflective layer, preferably made of Au, Ag or Al.

29. A method of making a switch according to Claim 28, wherein the reflective layer is protected by a protective layer.

30. A method of making a switch according to Claim 29, wherein the protective layer is essentially formed of SiO_2 , SiO_x , MgF_2 , ThF_4 or similar stable hard dielectric oxides, nitrides or fluorides.